

students enrolled in institutions of higher education. Since 2003, the national cohort default rate has increased from 4.5 percent to 7 percent.

(6) Students rely on access to credit. Fifty-six percent of dependent students at institutions of higher education had a credit card in their own name in 2004. The average credit card balance among such students who were carrying a balance on their cards was \$2,000.

(7) According to the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, the majority of adults (56 percent of adults in the United States, or 127,000,000 people) do not have a budget or keep close track of expenses or spending.

(8) According to a 2009 National Bankruptcy Research Center study, consumers who received financial education through pre-bankruptcy counseling had 27.5 percent fewer delinquent accounts and remained current on their accounts for 29 percent longer.

(9) According to the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation, less than one-third of young adults (ages 18 to 29) set aside emergency savings to weather unexpected financial challenges.

(10) According to a Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy survey, 62 percent of high school students cannot pass a basic personal finance exam, and financial literacy scores among future higher education students are low.

(11) According to research by the National Endowment for Financial Education and the University of Arizona, schools are the institutions that students trust most to help increase their knowledge of personal finance.

SEC. 3. FINANCIAL LITERACY COUNSELING.

Section 485 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(n) FINANCIAL LITERACY COUNSELING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible institution shall provide financial literacy counseling to student borrowers in accordance with the requirements of this subsection, through—

“(A) financial aid offices;

“(B) an employee or group of employees designated under subsection (c); or

“(C) a partnership with a nonprofit organization that has substantial experience developing or administering financial literacy and economic education curricula, which may include an organization that has received grant funding under the Excellence in Economic Education Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. 7267 et seq.).

“(2) ENTRANCE AND EXIT COUNSELING REQUIRED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Financial literacy counseling, as required under this subsection, shall be provided to student borrowers on the following 2 occasions:

“(i) ENTRANCE COUNSELING.—Such counseling shall be provided not later than 45 days after the first disbursement of a borrower's first loan that is made, insured, or guaranteed under part B, made under part D, or made under part E. Financial literacy counseling on this occasion may be provided in conjunction with the entrance counseling described in subsection (1), if the financial literacy counseling component is provided in accordance with the requirements of subparagraph (C).

“(ii) EXIT COUNSELING.—Such financial literacy counseling shall be provided, in addition to the financial literacy counseling provided under clause (i), prior to the completion of the course of study for which the borrower enrolled at the institution or at the time of departure from such institution, to each borrower of a loan that is made, insured, or guaranteed under part B, made under part D, or made under part E. Financial literacy counseling on this occasion may

be provided in conjunction with the exit counseling described in subsection (b), if the financial literacy counseling component is provided in accordance with the requirements of subparagraph (C).

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The requirements of subparagraph (A) shall not apply to borrowers of—

“(i) a loan made, insured, or guaranteed pursuant to section 428C;

“(ii) a loan made, insured, or guaranteed on behalf of a student pursuant to section 428B; or

“(iii) a loan made under part D that is a Federal Direct Consolidation Loan or a Federal Direct PLUS loan made on behalf of a student.

“(C) MINIMUM COUNSELING REQUIREMENTS.—Such financial literacy counseling shall include a total of not less than 4 hours of counseling on the occasion described in subparagraph (A)(i), and an additional period of not less than 4 hours of counseling on the occasion described in subparagraph (A)(ii). A total of not more than 2 hours of counseling for each of the occasions described in subparagraph (A) shall be provided electronically.

“(D) EARLY DEPARTURE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (C), if a borrower leaves an eligible institution without the prior knowledge of such institution, the institution shall attempt to provide the information required under this subsection to the student in writing.

“(3) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED.—Financial literacy counseling, as required under this subsection, shall include information on the Financial Education Core Competencies as determined by the Financial Literacy and Education Commission established under title V of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.).

“(4) USE OF INTERACTIVE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may encourage institutions to carry out the requirements of this subsection through the use of interactive programs that test the borrower's understanding of the financial literacy information provided through counseling under this subsection, using simple and understandable language and clear formatting.

“(5) MODEL FINANCIAL LITERACY COUNSELING CURRICULUM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the College Literacy in Finance and Economics Act of 2011, the Secretary shall develop a curriculum in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (3), which eligible institutions may use to fulfill the requirements of this subsection. In developing such curriculum, the Secretary may consult with members of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission.”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 499. Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, to reduce the number of executive positions subject to Senate confirmation.

SA 500. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 501. Mr. DEMINT (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. HATCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 502. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 503. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 504. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 505. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 506. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 507. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 508. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 509. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 510. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 511. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 512. Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 499. Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, to reduce the number of executive positions subject to Senate confirmation; as follows:

On page 75, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

SEC. 5. PROHIBITION OF FUNDS FOR OFFICES HEADED BY CZARS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Czar”—

(1) means the head of any task force, council, policy office, or similar office established by or at the direction of the President who—

(A) is appointed to such position (other than on an interim basis) without the advice and consent of the Senate;

(B) is excepted from the competitive service by reason of such position's confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character; and

(C) performs or delegates functions which (but for the establishment of such task force, council, policy office, or similar office) would be performed or delegated by an individual in a position that the President appoints by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(2) does not include—

(A) any individual who, before the date of the enactment of this Act, was serving in the position of Assistant Secretary, or an equivalent position, that requires confirmation by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or a designee; or

(B) the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

(b) PROHIBITION OF FUNDS.—Appropriated funds may not be used to pay for any salaries or expenses of any task force, council, policy office within the Executive Office of the President, or similar office—

(1) that is established by or at the direction of the President; and

(2) the head of which is a Czar.

SA 500. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. PAUL, and